

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Jan. 24, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

AA Library open for business

The Aberdeen Area library is open for business. See Community notes for more information.

APG and EA Shoppette update

ANYONE can purchase Krispy Kreme Donuts and coffee at both shoppettes. The Edgewood Shoppette is also now offering short order breakfasts.

A reminder, ANYONE can purchase hot food items at both shoppettes.

Effective Jan 16, the hours at the Edgewood Shoppette will be Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

MCSC offers scholarships

The Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses Club is currently accepting applications for scholarship money. Applicants must be spouses or children of military members (active duty, retired, or reserve).

Applications are available on Aberdeen Proving Ground at the Post Office, Library, Thrift Shop, and Education Center. They are also available at Harford Community College and local high schools.

The deadline for application is March 15.

For more information, contact Tannia Ross at 410-297-4972.

389th Army Band (AMC's Own) to perform at local college

The 389th Army Band will present a free concert at Cecil Community College at 2 p.m. on Jan. 20 at the Cultural Arts Center. The concert will salute Cecil County veterans. The concert is open to the public.

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Youth fashion and talent show

Kirk brings GermBusters to Roye-Williams Elementary



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Col. Walter Egerton, left, commander of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, holds his hands under a black light held by Capt. Larry Rowe to show leftover germs from improper hand washing. The demonstration was part of the GermBusters program held Jan. 4 at Roye-Williams Elementary School.

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Few things spread faster or more efficiently than germs.

Realizing that, Aberdeen Proving Ground health practitioners from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic are hustling to spread the word about a new approach to stopping germs in their tracks - GermBusters.

GermBusters is a prevention program that was brought to APG by Capt. Larry Rowe, a preventive medicine practitioner who initiated the program at Fort Bragg, N.C., in 1997.

GermBusters focuses on instilling proper hand washing habits in youths, ages 4-8 in child development centers and elementary schools, two sites notorious for harboring disease causing germs.

"The GermBusters program uses classroom interactions, demonstrations and practical exercises to teach children how germs are spread," Rowe said. "Using black lights and a non-toxic fluorescent lotion, we illuminate contaminated areas on the hands and on inanimate objects used in daily activities."

Rowe said the program has been "highly successful" at Fort Bragg and in Korea and was recently adopted by APG's Child and Youth Services as "a cost-effective way to raise children's awareness on the importance of hand cleanliness."

"We are running the program in the Child Development Centers in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas and have received funds from the Edgewood Area Thrift Shop to purchase GermBusters sun glasses," Rowe said.

On Jan. 4, personnel from Kirk presented the area's first GermBusters program to youngsters at Roye-Williams Elementary School.

Col. Walter Egerton, KUSAHC commander, Lt. Col. Nancy Hodge, chief nurse, and Lt. Col. Vincentia Agbah, chief of preventive medicine and wellness, served as volunteer demonstrators for the large group of third graders that gathered in the school's media center.

"We came here to tell you about germs and how they get from one person to another," Rowe told the children.

After introducing the panel, Rowe questioned the children on their knowledge about germs then explained the do's and don'ts of hand hygiene.

The children watched closely as the volunteers, acting out bad habits as Rowe spoke, simulated sneezing in their hands, picking their noses

See GERMBUSTERS, page 5

TAML NCO, Soldier of the Year announced

By Sheila Little
APG News

The 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory has announced selections for noncommissioned officer and soldier of the year.

Sgt. Ophelia L. Begay, a medical laboratory NCO, is the unit's noncommissioned officer of the year, and Spec. Robert L. Spencer, a preventive medicine specialist, is the TAML soldier of the year.

The two soldiers are the first selected for the recognition since the 520th TAML began the quarterly selection process last year.

The TAML winners were selected through squad leader recommendations and consideration of physical fitness scores, individual job performance, and military knowledge.

Begay entered the military in 1993, and is responsible for coordinating the Army's only chemical warfare detection section. She

See TAML, page 3

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Hundreds of Aberdeen Proving Ground soldiers and employees turned out to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during the post's annual commemorative prayer breakfast held at Top of the Bay on Jan. 10.

The event, sponsored by the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, featured a keynote address by the Angela M. Eaves, Harford County district court judge.

Musical performances by Command Sgt. Maj. Sam Brinson from the 143rd Ordnance Battalion and Lisa Lyons, who performed the National Anthem, rounded out the celebration.

In his welcome, CHPPM commander, Brig. Gen. Lester Martinez-Lopez, noting the theme of King's famous "I Have A Dream" speech, asked listeners to "take the time to consider what this journey is all about and consider carrying on the incredible quest of Martin Luther King."

See KING page 3

APG remembers Martin Luther King Jr.



Photo by LA'MONT HARBISON

Angela M. Eaves, Harford County District Court judge, left, accepts a commemorative plaque from Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, following the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Prayer Breakfast held Jan. 10 at Top of the Bay. Eaves gave the keynote address for the annual program.

KUSAHC announces APG flu vaccine schedule

Armed against the flu bug



Photo by SHEILA LITTLE

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, receives his flu shot from Sgt. Dustin Behr of KUSAHC Immunization Clinic.

By Sheila Little
APG News

After a long wait for this winter's influenza vaccine, attributed to production and distribution difficulties, the Kirk U. S. Army Health Clinic is inoculating active duty soldiers, beneficiaries, and civilian workers. Limited inoculations of high-risk groups and deployable personnel began last month. With the arrival of a large amount of the vaccine after the new year, inoculations are now scheduled for all units with active duty personnel. Those units with large troop populations are scheduled to be fully vaccinated by Jan. 23.

Retirees, dependents, civilian workers and others interested in receiving the vaccine who are unable to attend the free flu shot clinics set up by the county, should contact the Immunization Clinic at 410-278-1746 for flu shot information.

Clinic hours are Monday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Tuesday, 8 to 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Those beneficiaries under age 18 wishing to receive an inoculation at Kirk must go through the Pediatric Clinic for inoculations.

The Occupational Health Clinic is currently offering walk-in influenza vaccines to Department of the Army civilian employees in the Aberdeen Area on

the third floor Occupational Health Clinic suite of KUSAHC, building 2501, Jan. 24, 25, and 29, 1:30 to 3 p.m. Edgewood Area employees may receive their immunizations during the same dates and times in the Edgewood Area Health Clinic, building E4110.

Staff Sgt. Robert Conway, noncommissioned officer in charge of the immunization clinic, said KUSAHC beneficiaries have remained understanding throughout the long wait for vaccine.

"Everyone who inquired at the clinic has remained patient throughout the last several months," he said. "I'd like to thank everyone for their continued cooperation and understanding attitude. It's been greatly appreciated by everyone at the clinic."

The Harford County Health Department continues to offer free influenza vaccine on all Fridays in January. Clinics are held 1 to 4 p.m. in Aberdeen and Bel Air; the next clinics are scheduled for January 19 and 26. The Aberdeen location is the community building, 34 North Philadelphia Blvd., 2nd floor. The Bel Air location is 119 South Hayes St. An additional clinic, scheduled for one session, 1 to 3 p.m., on Fri., Jan. 19, will be at the Highland Community Center, 708 Highland Rd., in Street.

Inoculations will be given to attendees over the age of 12, on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call the health department, 410-638-8459, for more information.

POST SHORTS

SHORTS, from front page

Nominations for the NAF Employee of the Year

Supervisors of Non-appropriated Fund employees are reminded that nominations for the NAF Employee of the Year are due to NAF Personnel on Jan. 22. Please call 410-278-8994 or 8993 if you have questions while preparing nomination packages.

61st Ordnance Brigade Prayer Breakfast set for Jan. 31

The 61st Ordnance Brigade will host a prayer breakfast on Jan. 31 at Top of the Bay. Breakfast will be served at 6 a.m. with the formal program starting at 6:30 a.m. The guest speaker will be Chaplain (Col.) Scott McChrystal, staff chaplain, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y.

The 389th U.S. Army Band's Brass Quintet and the Northeastern Civilian Personnel Operations Center Gospel Choir will be providing musical support..

Tickets are \$5 and are available through the 61st Ordnance Brigade, 16th Ordnance Battalion and 143rd Ordnance Battalion sergeants major. For more information, call the 61st Ordnance Brigade Chaplain's Office at 410-278-2994 or 9313.

Freestate ChalleNGe sponsored by the Maryland National Guard

The Maryland National Guard currently offers an alternative education program for area high school dropouts between 16 and 18. Freestate ChalleNGe, coordinated through the Maryland Guard is a 22-week, military-oriented resident program at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The program is free. The next class begins on Jan. 20 and ends on June 23. The resident portion of the program is followed by an intensive year-long mentoring phase to adjust to the world of work and follow-on education.

Freestate ChalleNGe places a strong emphasis on commitment, concentration and concerted effort. A primary program objective is to prepare enrollees for the G.E.D. examination.

To qualify for Freestate ChalleNGe, participants must be: drug free, not be in the juvenile justice system, a high school dropout and able to pass a ninth grade aptitude test.

For more information on Freestate ChalleNGe contact Chaplain (Maj.) Ron Martin-Minnich, program director, or Charles Rooks, recruiter, at 1-800-820-6692 or visit a Maryland National Guard Armory.

Winter weekend getaway to Jack Frost and Eagle Rock

The Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Information, Ticketing and Registration Office is offering a winter weekend getaway Feb. 16 to 18 to Jack Frost and Eagle Rock for snow skiing. The trip includes round trip escorted motor coach transportation, two nights hotel accommodations at Days Inn, Danville, Pa., four smorgasbords, entertainment and open bar available (must be 21 with legal photo identification).

Rates per person for a quad (four per room) is \$200, for a triple (three per room) is \$224, and a double (two per room) is \$230. Payment in full must be received no later than Jan. 22.

For more information call 410-278-4011/278-4621.

Snow ski rental packages available at Outdoor Recreation

Are you planning a ski trip this winter? If you are, stop by the Equipment Resource Center at Outdoor Recreation and rent your skis today.

It is offering a downhill ski season package (skis, boots and poles) for \$100. Keep the equipment until April 1, 2001. This also includes three free ski tunings through the season. You can also rent skis for the season for \$70 or boots for \$30.

ERC rents skis for \$7.50 a day, boots for \$5 a day and poles for \$2.50 a day, or get the whole set for \$14.00 per day. Take 25 percent off when you rent ski sets for four or more days.

The Equipment Resource Center has snowboards for \$15 a day, and ski bibs and car rack for \$5 a day.

Stop by the Equipment Resource Center, building 2407, and get pre-fitted for skis. For more information call 410-278-4124/5789.

Quilt Raffle

The Military and Civilian Spouses Club of APG is sponsoring a quilt raffle. The quilt is a queen size "Americana" quilt made by members of the MCSC. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5, and may be purchased at the Thrift Shop or by calling Diane Wilson, 410-297-8508. Drawing will be March 14. Proceeds to benefit morale and welfare funds.

Curtailment of furnishings turn-in

Due to the curtailed service at the Single Stock Fund Turn-In Section until Feb. 15, the Furnishings Management Branch will not accept turn-ins from units until the first week of February. For more information contact Carol Lamp at 410-278-4655.

Family Child Care training

Family Child Care training will be held during the week of Feb. 12 in building 2752. Interviews will be held on Feb. 6 and 7. Applicants who are interested in providing home-based child care, especially in the Edgewood Area, are encouraged to apply. Being a professionally-trained provider in a warm home environment offers many benefits: extra cash, self employment, free training in a marketable profession, transferable credit to Army installations world wide, free use of lending library, free referrals by Central Registry; free monthly newsletter; free workshops (nutrition, health, child development, safety, CPR, taxes), participation in the National CDA credential program; and participation in the USDA food program. For details, call Gail Smith (AA), 410-278-7477/8720 or Kathy Reese (EA), 410-436-2692/3355.

Restoration Advisory Board meeting scheduled

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting on Thursday, Jan. 25, 7 to 9:45 p.m. at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road. The topic will be the J-Field Study Area. Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the information line at 410-272-8842 or 1-800-274-9998.

Tutors available at Aberdeen Area Youth Center

Wendy Haslup is available for tutoring every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Aberdeen Youth Center. Call her there Monday through Friday to set up an appointment, 410-278-4995 or 410-278-9061. For more information about the tutoring program and other activities, contact the Aberdeen Youth Center at 410-278-4995.

NECPOC announces training course

Leadership Skills for Non-Supervisors will be offered Apr. 10-11, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School. Tuition is \$245.

This course is designed for team leaders, office coordinators, special emphasis program managers and all non-supervisory employees who want to enhance their leadership skills. It includes instruction in handling different personality types, the art of giving constructive feedback that minimizes defensiveness, effective delegation, overcoming conflict without making enemies and building teams that work well together and gets results.

Nominations must be received in the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center, by Jan. 19.

For more information contact Karin Hancock, 410-306-0065 or e-mail her at Karin.Hancock@cpocner.apg.army.mil.

Thrift Savings Plan Open Season

Thrift Savings Plan is open for changes to enrollment until Jan. 31. During the open enrollment period employees may elect to enroll in TSP or change their current TSP deduction. TSP Open Season Update Pamphlets will be distributed to agency administrative offices upon receipt in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

Employees must now contact the Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C) to make an open season change. Enrollment form TSP-1 can no longer be completed or processed by the CPAC. Employees may call the ABC-C at 1-877-276-9287 or access the website at www.abc.army.mil to enroll in TSP or make a change.

Employees who wish to change the way their TSP account balance is currently invested must request a TSP Interfund Transfer. Interfund transfers can be made up to once a month by calling the ThriftLine at 504-255-8777 or by completing a TSP-30, Interfund Transfer Request, available on the TSP website, www.tsp.gov. The TSP website includes current TSP information, forms and publications.

2001 USO Guide to Washington and Baltimore

The USO of Metropolitan Washington announces the 2001 Guide to Washington and Baltimore is available. This 13th edition of the guide is an invaluable resource for service members stationed, or on temporary assignment, in the Washington metropolitan area. It provides a comprehensive listing of USO and military resources, information on sight seeing and recreation, maps, and general information on living in the area.

The winning photo, taken by Lt. Col. Donna H. Parry, USAF (retired), from the USO-Metro photography contest is featured on the cover of the guide. The USO-Metro will hold another photo contest to select the 2002 Guide to Washington and Baltimore cover. The deadline for submissions is Oct. 15.

The Guide is provided free of charge to members of the military and their families and may be picked up at USO-Metro's administrative offices in building 59 on Fort Myer or at any USO Outreach Center. Copies are also being distributed through area Senior Enlisted Advisors. For more information, call 703-696-2628.

Eliminating mustard agent at APG

Get answers about how the Army is safely eliminating the mustard agent stockpile stored at Aberdeen Proving Ground. Call or visit the Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office located in the Woodbridge Station Shopping Center, 1011B Woodbridge Center Way, Edgewood, 410-676-6800. The office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Current information is also available at www.pmcda.apgea.army.mil

Kirk will help you kick butts

Four one-hour tobacco cessation classes will be held on Thursdays from 12 to 1 p.m. Feb. 1, 8, 15, and 22 in the Preventive Medicine Conference room (room A-12), Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. All military beneficiaries are eligible to attend.

Four two-hour evening classes will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Feb. 6, 13, 20, and 27.

For more information and to register for the first class, call Preventive Medicine at 410-278-1964.

Preregistration is required because class size is limited. Classes will be offered monthly.

SBCCOM seeking volunteers for medical engineering team

The U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command Volunteers for Medical Engineering team is seeking individuals interested in participating in team activities in 2001.

In its third year of operation, a new member orientation is scheduled for Feb. 1 at 4 p.m. in the Berger Lab Auditorium (building E3549). Membership is open to anyone who wants a chance to 'give back' to the elderly and disabled in the Harford and Cecil County communities.

The team projects require a wide variety of skills. In particular, the team is looking for anyone who wants a chance to demonstrate his or her ability to manage a project from start to finish and demonstrate a 'can-do' attitude. Many times, in the normal course of project work an individual never gets the opportunity to take the lead on a project and see it through from start to finish. Here is the chance to demonstrate those hidden skills like persuasiveness, innovation and emotional intelligence.

The main VME office in Baltimore requires only a first year face-to-face orientation and \$10 fee for liability insurance. For subsequent years, participants need only pay the \$10 for liability insurance coverage and watch a short reorientation video.

A positive benefit, in addition to the great feeling one gets from 'giving, is that volunteer participation looks great on a resume.

Contact Bob Coen at 410-436-8213 or email rlcoen@sbccom.apgea.army.mil to reserve a place on the team.

To learn more about the VME team, visit web site <http://www.sbccom.apgea.army.mil/RDA/vme/vme.htm>

KUSAHC healthy eating

Kirk will help you develop healthy-eating habits during a two-hour session to be conducted 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Jan. 18 and again on Feb. 15. A health and wellness counselor will cover reading food labels, the food pyramid, food proportions, and diet and exercise as related to weight loss. Training will be conducted in the Preventive Medicine Conference room (room A-12), Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. All TRICARE beneficiaries are eligible. For more information and to schedule for the first class, call 410-278-1964.

Help available for workers' compensation

The Workers' Compensation Office is located in the Installation Safety Division, Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, building 4304. The office is open for walk-in assistance on Monday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, the office will schedule appointments.

For more information contact the Workers' Compensation Office at 410-306-1091 or program manager, Susie Ashby, at 410-306-1057.

POLICEMAN OF THE YEAR



No Parking?

PHOTO BY LA'MONT HARBISON

Joseph L. Davis III, APG's Police Officer of the Year, holds a sign for his very own parking space that was presented to him following a ceremony in the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security headquarters. Davis received the Department of the Army Certificate of Achievement from Col. Robert J. Spidel, deputy installation commander and Maj. Darrell Andrews, provost marshal. Davis' wife of 34 years, Sharon M. Davis, and other family members witnessed the ceremony.

APG News

The *APG News*, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the *APG News* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 324, Second Floor, AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5005; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; fax it to 410-278-2570; or e-mail it to editor@apg.army.mil. Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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The best of TAML



Left, 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory Noncommissioned Officer of the Year Sgt. Ophelia L. Begay loads standards into a gas chromatograph mass spectrophotometer in order to verify machine accuracy. Above right, 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory Soldier of the Year Spec. Robert L. Spencer programs an air sampler for a 24-hour test of the surrounding atmosphere.



Photos by SGT. HILARIO JUDGE

TAML, from front page

said she was surprised at being selected because of tough competition within the unit.

“It is a real privilege to be representing TAML. I want to thank the unit for their support and I look forward to the next level of competition,” she said.

Spec. Robert L. Spencer, who resides with his wife Jennifer in Skippers Point, entered the service in 1998. The 520th TAML is his first military duty assignment. Spencer said the experience of studying for the boards has increased his understanding of military procedures. As expressed by Begay, Spencer said he did not expect to win, because of the quality of the competition within the unit.

“I was surprised to win, as the competition was really tight,” Spencer said. He added that studying for the boards and facing practice ‘mock’ boards has helped him maintain successful performance under

pressure, an important ingredient of military bearing.

Sgt. 1st Class Jesus Perez is credited with initiating the selection boards under the direction of Sgt. Maj. Robert Levy.

“We are a small unit, but feel our soldiers and NCO’s should have the same opportunities to compete with selectees from other larger organizations,” Perez said. “Representing the unit in competition with others is an experience that is beneficial to everyone involved.”

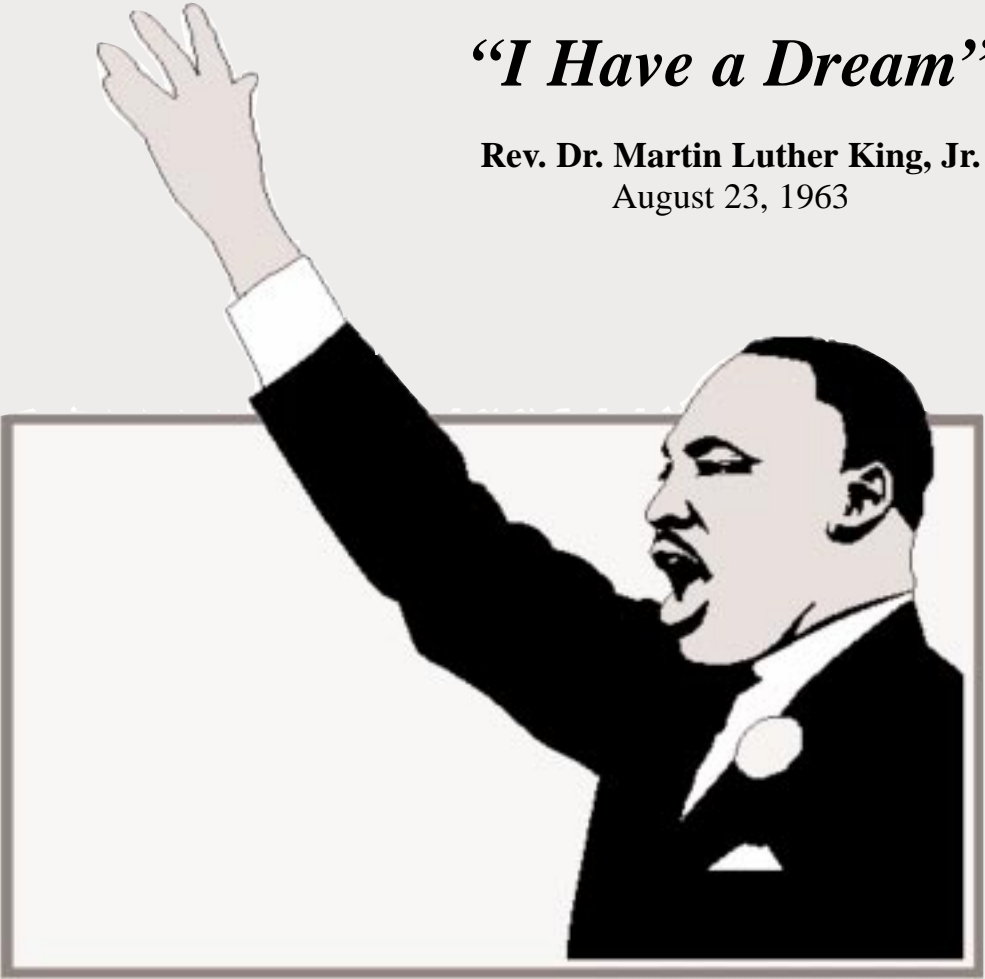
The next level of competition, the APG NCO of the Year and Soldier of the Year competitions, takes place later this month. Perez expressed confidence and predicted that the TAML selectees will do well.

“We are proud to be represented by Begay and Spencer at the installation level,” Perez said. “They are well-prepared and will do us proud.”

Harford County judge speaks at remembrance ceremony

“*I Have a Dream*”

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
August 23, 1963



KING, from front page

“Hopefully, we can renew our vow to make this dream a reality so we can make a difference,” Martinez-Lopez said.

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command introduced the guest speaker.

Doesburg had praise for the program’s organizers and participants and commended the audience for taking the time to attend the early morning affair.

“All of you make APG what it is,” Doesburg said. “We are here to remember a man who had a profound impact on all people of the world. His legacy still reaches out to every one of us.”

Doesburg introduced the guest speaker as “a lady of renown in this area,” as the first African American judge of the District Court of Maryland for Harford County.

He listed the highlights of Eaves career, noting her 2000 appointment to the district court by Governor Parris Glendening.

In her address, Eaves discussed the impact King’s “I Have A Dream” speech has had on her life.

Recalling her childhood, growing up in Brooklyn, N.Y., Eaves described herself as being oblivious to racism until an ugly episode with a city bus driver forced her mother to have “the talk” that “explained how blacks are treated by some.”

“At a young age I learned to deal with racism’s subtle forms,” Eaves said. “No child should be faced with such an ugly reality.”

Though she did not hear the words of King’s 1963 speech until 1969, Eaves said his “prophetic vision” inspires her to this day.

“We cannot allow his words to have been in vain,” Eaves said. “We must all do more to help others. What we lack is not talent or knowledge but a national commitment toward a collective goal.”

Describing herself as “an example of the selfless work of Dr. King,” Eaves told the audience, “I promise I will do my part as a Harford County judge to ensure justice is color blind. Please do your part to make his dream our reality.”

Aroused by Eaves’ words, the audience gave her a standing ovation as Doesburg thanked her for “those truly inspiring words.”

He presented commemorative plaques to Eaves, Brinson, Lyons and Capt. Cheryl Cameron, an audiologist from CHPPM and the events’ lead organizer.

Col. Larry D. Robinson, the installation staff chaplain, closed the program with the benediction, asking, “that we leave here with a renewed effort to help change the world to achieve an everlasting peace.”

Staff Sgt. Stephanie McGee, noncommissioned officer in charge of the general staff, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command, was the mistress of ceremonies. The posting and retiring of the colors was performed by the CHPPM honor guard.

Organizers for APG’s Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Prayer Breakfast included: Capt. Cheryl Cameron, 1st Lt. Jennifer Gerald, Master Sgt. James Davis, Sfc. Shelton Torbert, Herbert Johnson, Mitchelen Bigman, Rodney Yelder, Staff. Sgt. Michael Jackson, and Sharon Cevis, Cheryl Coleman, Jeanette England, Joyce Kopatch and Brenda Clayton.

Army recruiting message more relevant to youth

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

WASHINGTON (Jan. 10) — Why change a slogan that one study claims to have been the number two recognized advertising ditty of the 21st century? The answer, according marketing professional Pat Lafferty, is to make the Army’s message more relevant to today’s youth.

Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera announced the Army’s adoption of “An Army of one” as its new slogan and the kickoff of a new advertising campaign aimed at 17- to 24-year-olds during a Pentagon press briefing Jan. 12.

A year-long study conducted in 1999 by the Army and several commercial marketing partners found that while most American youth recognized the Army’s “Be all you can be” slogan, it did not strike a chord in them to find out more about the Army. That study was validated by an independent marketing survey of more than 500 youth conducted by Leo Burnett, USA, this past year. Leo Burnett was selected as the Army’s lead advertising agency last June.

“There has been significant misperceptions about what the Army is, what the Army has to offer, who soldiers are, what they do and why they do it among young adults,” said Lafferty, a Leo Burnett vice president who has been working on the Army’s new advertising campaign. “In addition to finding that unique benefit that only the Army can offer these young adults, we had to find ways to communicate that make them sit up and take notice.”

That benefit, according to Lafferty, is retaining individualism while making significant contributions to something larger than self.

“The Army empowers individuals to succeed, to think on their feet and make decisions, to make stuff happen no matter what the situation or the odds, Lafferty said. “Soldiers are trained to think, they’re trained to react and they have large responsibilities at a young age — they make things happen. Interestingly, that’s exactly what young adults want according to our research.”

And the method to make the young people sit up and take notice of the Army is to get them to it’s recruiting web site, www.goarmy.com, via the new campaign’s radio, television and print ads.

“We very much want to drive these [young people] to the web site and explore the Army,” Caldera said. “We know that they are very much in tune with technology because that is where they go for information.

“They’re going to meet these soldiers — they’re real soldiers in the ads, not actors. They’re going to find out what their life was like before, in high school, during basic training, their families — how they are married and have children today

“We want to show that the Army has soldiers just like them.”

At www.goarmy.com, the ad campaign soldiers tell their stories through a series of streaming video vignettes. To ensure these real soldiers told real Army stories, the vignettes used the responses of open-ended questions during solider interviews — none of soldiers’ words were scripted, according to P.T. Henry, assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. The videos tell of different soldiers’ professional and personal experiences in the Army.

Web site viewers can also take virtual reality tours of Fort Knox, Ky., a set of Army barracks, the M1A2 Abrams Tank and the M3A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle, explore the 212 specific jobs the Army offers or chat with an Army recruiter.

Education funding changes begin in February

By Master Sgt. Jon Connor
Army News Service

WASHINGTON (Jan. 8) - Soldiers wanting more money for higher education should report to their local education center beginning Feb. 1, the Army has announced.

The Veterans Benefits and Health Care Improvements Act of 2000, signed into law Nov. 1 (Public Law 106-419), offers soldiers and their family members new options to fund higher education.

“Changes this year will really help soldiers keep up with the higher costs of education,” said Lt. Col. George Richon, chief of the Recruiting Resources Branch, Enlisted Accessions Division, under the Army’s Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

One big change will allow soldiers who are enrolled with the Veterans Education Assistance Program to convert to the much more generous Montgomery GI

Bill. VEAP is the education program designed for post-Vietnam era soldiers.

The VEAP program offered a total of \$8,100 to help pay for higher education based on a \$2,700 individual contribution. Critics of the VEAP funding have said it didn’t go far enough in helping soldiers meet the ongoing rising costs of education.

The law allowed soldiers who were on active duty and had money in their VEAP accounts on or before Oct. 9, 1996 to convert to the MGIB. There was previously a one-year window to convert.

Out of an eligible 21,707 soldiers in 1996, 10,223 converted to the MGIB, 550 opted not to convert, and 10,934 did not respond during the one-year window.

Now the new law is providing another window for VEAP-era soldiers to convert to MGIB and it allows them to convert even if their account was inactive in 1996.

In order to be eligible to convert under the new window, soldiers must have continuously served on active duty from Oct. 9, 1996 through April 1, 2000.

Those wishing to convert must make an irrevocable election to change to the MGIB; they must withdraw any balance left in their VEAP accounts; and they must make or complete a \$2,700 payment during an 18-month window beginning when they opt to convert to the MGIB, Richon said.

“This is a very good deal for soldiers wanting to continue their civilian education. Soldiers do have time to make the right decision before Oct. 31, 2001,” Richon said. “They need to discuss this with the counselors at their education center.”

Those eligible and wishing to switch must do so by Oct. 31.

Additionally, the law states no one can receive more than 48 months of benefits between the two programs. And, that the sol-

dier, upon discharge or release from active duty, must receive an honorable discharge.

Another significant change is that new soldiers selecting the Army’s Loan Repayment program are also eligible for Montgomery GI Bill benefits, Richon said.

The Army’s Education Incentives and Counseling Branch is responsible for issuing implementation guidance to Army Education Centers. Counselors will assist those seeking to convert from VEAP to the MGIB, he said, and also assist soldiers who have participated in the Loan Repayment program.

The new law offers soldiers the option to increase the total benefit amount by allowing them to contribute an additional maximum of \$600 on top of the original \$1,200. With the government’s nine-fold contribution, this would mean another \$5,400 would be available for a maximum entitlement of \$28,800.

Those veterans discharged between Nov. 1, 2000 and April 30, 2001 must elect to make eligibility contributions for additional benefits by July 31 of this year.

Soldiers who convert from the VEAP to the MGIB, however, are not eligible for this additional monthly amount.

On Nov. 1, the MGIB entitlements were increased 23 percent. This allows soldiers serving three or more years on active duty to

receive \$23,400 or \$650 monthly based on a 36-month full-time school installment plan.

For those serving less than three years, the payment is \$528.

Another change is that educational benefits may now be used for licensing and certification tests needed to enter, maintain, or advance into employment in a civilian status. Eligible veterans or family members will now receive payment of the fee charged for the test or \$2,000 - whichever is less.

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service will reportedly soon place a message on Leave and Earning Statements that it is available to accept payments for MGIB contributions after Feb. 1.

For more information, log onto the Veterans Administration’s internet site at www.gibill.va.gov or call 1-888-452-4551; the Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-800-827-1000; the Veterans Administration public affairs office at 1-202-273-6000; or, educational affairs at 1-888-442-4551.

The Education and Incentives and Counseling Branch, Army Personnel Command, can be contacted at 1-800-872-8272.

Additional information may also be obtained on the web at www.perscom.army.mil/education and www.perscom.army.mil/education/veap.htmls

Cyberspace education offered to soldiers

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

WASHINGTON (Dec. 14) — Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera announced the Army has awarded a \$453 million contract to PricewaterhouseCoopers to provide distance education for an estimated 80,000 soldiers over the next five years.

The announcement was made at a National Press Club press conference Dec. 14.

Before expanding to all active-duty soldiers, the initiative will first be tested over the next year with interested soldiers at Fort Benning, Ga.; Fort Campbell, Ky.; and Fort Hood, Texas. Program registration at these installations is expected to start in mid-January.

Caldera first announced the Army vision for Army University Access Online July 10. This initiative will empower eligible soldiers to obtain college degrees or professional technical certifications using notebook computers and online courses while they serve in the Army.

“This cutting edge, cyberspace program will provide unprecedented educational opportunities for our soldiers,” said Caldera. “It reinforces the Army’s long-term commitment to investing in its people. This strategic alliance with PricewaterhouseCoopers and its unique team opens a new doorway to personal growth —

See ONLINE, page 5

Youths learn to wash away germs



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic's registered nurse, Milagros Borrero-Ruiz, left, and Capt. Larry Rowe, right, use a black light to expose germs on the hands of Roye-Williams Elementary School third grader Darius Duckworth, 8. The demonstration was part of the new GermBusters program from the department of Preventive Medicine and Wellness that focuses on reducing the spread of communicable diseases in elementary schools and child care centers by promoting proper hand washing skills.

GERMBUSTERS, from front page

and shaking hands with each other. At the children's urging, Rowe shined a black light on each of the volunteer's hands, exposing a wealth of germs.

Using a series of short skits, the group illustrated the existence of germs on "common, everyday items."

In one skit, Egerton and third-grader Darius Duckworth, 8, played a customer and an employee in a pizza shop who picked up germs from the telephone, the cash register and from the money they exchanged.

In the next skit, Hodge surprised her son, Sam, 9, a member of the class, by giving him a library book that she had handled.

Demonstrating how germs are passed from person to person, Agbah passed a basketball to her daughter, Celeste Mensah who dribbled it then passed it on to several classmates.

Using the black light, Rowe revealed the germs on the items and on the participants' hands.

In the program's final segment, Rowe led the class through the five steps of proper hand washing: wet the hands, soap them, rinse, dry them off with a paper towel and use the towel to turn off the faucet.

"Remember, being a GermBuster means we wash our hands correct-

ly, we don't pick our noses and we don't put things in our mouths," Rowe said.

At the end of the program, Rowe and the rest of the volunteers passed out "official" GermBuster sunglasses and posed with the class for a group photo.

"What a great program," said Principal Sue Osborn. "I believe Roye-Williams has several more hand washing experts now."

Rowe said he started the program after series of infectious outbreaks in Fort Bragg.

"The Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta has confirmed through research that hand washing is the single most effective method in preventing the spread of disease," Rowe said. "With GermBusters, we cut down on illness and diseases at schools, where children remind each other and at home, where our children remind us."

Personnel assisting in the GermBusters presentation included Staff Sgt. Earnest Whitfield and Spcs. Chris Roberts and Adrienne Taylor from the department of preventive medicine and wellness and Celeste Mensah, Agbah's daughter.

Soldiers can earn degrees online, anytime, anywhere

ONLINE, from page 4

allowing America's soldiers to earn post-secondary degrees or technical certifications online anytime, anywhere, anyplace, while they serve."

Soldiers signing up for the program will receive a free technology package consisting of a laptop computer, printer, Internet service provider and access to a technology service help desk. That laptop and printer become the soldier's personal property once 12 credit hours have been completed within a two-year window. Course tuition and books are free.

However, there are some limitations to registering and keeping the equipment, according to Susan Johnson, an Army education specialist who will become the program's oversight manager at the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

Soldiers must have at least three years remaining in the Army, she explained.

Additionally, those in the program must return the technology package to PricewaterhouseCoopers if the required 12 credit hours are not completed within the stipulated two-year window. Soldiers and their commanders must also sign a memorandum of understanding provided by local Army Education Services counselors concerning program requirements.

As part of the contractor announcement, Caldera presented technology packages to soldiers from each of the test installations. Those soldiers were: Staff Sgt. Jeffrey L. Matthews, an administrative specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, Division Artillery, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell; Sgt. Christopher M. Jones, assistant regimental schools noncommissioned officer, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning; and Staff Sgt. Keva A. Wallace, food service specialist, Headquarters

and Distribution Company, 4th Forward Support Battalion, Fort Hood.

Matthews currently has 44 credit hours from two separate schools. He plans to use AUAO to get an associate's degree in general education.

Jones has attended three semesters at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. He wants to be a teacher. Jones said his recent decision to re-enlist in February was greatly influenced by the opportunity to participate in the new program.

Wallace is currently enrolled in Central Texas College. She plans to complete her degree in food services using AUAO.

The consortium created by PricewaterhouseCoopers for this distance learning initiative features an initial set of 29 accredited higher education institutions. These schools include members of the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges — Army Degrees pro-

gram as well as Historically Black Colleges and Tribal Colleges. The new contractor has also enlisted the support of several high tech companies, including: TurboTek Computers, Fiberlink, Precision Response Corporation, Saba, PeopleSoft and Blackboard. More academic institutions and technology companies are expected to join PricewaterhouseCoopers as the program expands.

"PricewaterhouseCoopers brings unequaled experience in managing large, global and complex programs as well as acknowledged expertise in technology development and in e-learning strategies," Caldera said. "Together, we will inspire educated, Information Age-savvy soldiers to succeed in the high technology missions the Army will be asked to perform in the 21st century."

January specials at the Bowling Center

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Bowling Center snack bar offers a variety of menu items including cheese steak subs, burgers, chicken fillet sandwich, meatball subs, wing dings & wing zings, pizza, french fries and more. A key chain special from Jan. 22 through 27 means if you buy a key chain at the snack bar with a meal, you will receive a free drink.

On Jan. 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. the Girl Scouts will be using all 20 lanes. From Jan. 29 through Feb. 2, there will be an E1-E4 Special Bowl (three pay for two). Identification must be shown.

For more information contact Dave Brewner at 410-278-4041.

Company C, 143rd doubles up Company A, 143rd 70-34 in first meeting of 2001

Photo and statistics by
YVONNE JOHNSON

Company A, 143rd Ordnance Battalion's Bryan Jenkins (11) dribbles past a Company C, 143rd Ordnance Battalion player as team mate Gerald Green (23) and Company C, 143rd's Virge Edgeston (12) keep pace.

Referee Jeff Ralls, far right, takes in all the action. Company C, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, won the Jan. 10 Hoyle Gym contest, 70-34.



The following information was reported for intramural basketball for the week ending Jan. 12.		
Aberdeen Division		
Results Jan. 3 NCOA, 47; Company B, 16th, 41 HHC 16th, 37; Company A, 16th, 34 HHC 61st, 47; Company C, 16th, 46 Jan. 4 KUSAHC, 50; Company E, 16th, 37 NCOA, 45; USMC, 40 HHC 16th, 42; Company B, 16th, 41 Jan. 8 KUSAHC, 41; HHC 16th, 31 Company C, 16th, 42; Company A, 16th, 31 Jan. 10 USMC, 59; KUSAHC, 30 HHC 61st, 71; Company E, 16th, 34 HHC 16th, 49; Company C, 16th, 47 Jan. 11 NCOA, 43; Company A, 16th, 34	KUSAHC	2-1
	USMC	1-1
	Company C, 16th	1-2
	Company E, 16th	0-2
	Company B, 16th	0-2
	Company A, 16th	0-3
	Edgewood Division	
	Results	
	Jan. 8 Company A, 143rd, 52; Company B, 143rd, 36 Company C, 143rd, 66; HHC 143rd, 38 520th TAML, 44; Nat. Guard, 40	
	Jan. 10 520th TAML, 47; Company B, 143rd, 45 Nat. Guard, 48; HHC 143rd, 46 Company C, 143rd, 70; Company A, 143rd, 34	
	Schedule	
	Jan. 22 6:30 p.m., Company B, 143rd vs. Company C, 143rd 7:30 p.m., Nat. Guard vs. Company A, 143rd 8:30 p.m., 520th TAML vs. HHC 143rd	
	Jan. 24 6:30 p.m., Company A, 143rd vs. HHC 143rd 7:30 p.m., Company B, 143rd vs. Nat Guard 8:30 p.m., Company C, 143rd vs. 520th TAML	
	Standings	
	520th TAML	2-0
	Company C, 143rd	2-0
	Company A, 143rd	1-1
	Nat. Guard	1-1
	Company B, 143rd	0-2
	HHC 143rd	0-2

Community Notes

SATURDAY JANUARY 20 MORE BASKET BINGO

The Good Shepherd Catholic School located on 810 Aiken Ave., Perryville, will sponsor Longaberger Basket Bingo, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. There will be a bake sale and drinks available. Cost is \$10 per ticket (three cards), and \$5 for additional sets of three cards. For tickets, call the Good Shepherd School at 410-642-6265, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332. Proceeds benefit the Good Shepherd Catholic School.

PWOC MEMBERS KEEP THE FIRE BURNING

Protestant Women of the Chapel invite you to attend “Keep the Fire Burning,” a one-day women’s retreat on Saturday, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the APG Chapel. Speakers for the day will be PWOC members, Judy Pfender of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and APG’s own Deborah Threadgill Egerton, Ph.D. Both speakers have extensive experience in christian growth and leadership.

In addition to the retreat, PWOC offers weekly Bible studies. With a new semester just beginning, women may choose from three topics. “To Live Is Christ: the Life and Ministry of Paul” and “A Look at the Book: a Bible Survey” are both offered on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. For the women who are unavailable during the day, there is a Monday night study. “Breaking Free: Making Liberty in Christ a Reality in Life” leads the students through the scriptures to find freedom in Christianity.

Membership is open to all women in the chapel community and general vicinity, active duty military of all services and their family members, and retired military and their family members. Contact Nancy Brugh at 410-272-1098 or Vicki Johnston at 410-273-1372 for more information.

INDOOR TRACK MEET

The Maryland National Guard will hold the 39th Annual Maryland National Guard Indoor Scholastic Games, 9 a.m., at the Fifth Regiment Armory, 219 West 29th Division St. (near the intersection of North Howard and West Preston Streets, Baltimore.) Students from approximately 85 area high schools will run, jump, pole vault and shot put in an effort to win team trophies and bowls and individual first, second and third place medals.

The Scholastic Games are sanctioned by the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association and staff members of Baltimore County Schools.

For more information and directions, call Maj. Drew Sullins, director of Public Affairs, 410-576-6179.

MONDAY JANUARY 22 FREE VOCAL IMPROVEMENT CLASS

Ladies, if you enjoy singing and would like to learn skills to

LEAVE DONATION

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program are:

Ameneh M. Arasten (maternity)	Yvonne Lissimore (knee surgery)
Fay Walker Banker (hip replacement)	Angela R. Little (neck and shoulder injury)
Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)	Rebecca G. Mercer-Leto (heart attack)
Barbara Boyd (mother is ill)	Nicholas J. Lombardo, Jr. (heart attack)
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant)	Stacy Miller (maternity)
Daniel Brown (father has emphysema)	Mary V. Overstreet (twisted and sprained wrists and legs)
Tammy Budkey	Debi L. Petosky (back surgery)
Nancy Coleman-Jones (surgery)	Cecil Pennington (surgery)
Bonnie K. Day (surgery)	Barbara Carol Remines (surgery)
William H. Davis (recovering from illness)	Michael Reynolds
Tricia Lin Dietz	Janice M. Rice (assist ill mother)
Fred Dill	Denise Robinson (maternity)
Surinder K. Dillon (son has cancer)	Ricky Ross (heart attack)
Joseph R. Dugan	Tami C. Rowland (maternity)
Messina Enderlein	Allan Scarborough (back surgery)
Wayne Erb (wife is ill)	Sherry Schaffer
Willia Freisheim	Lena Shelton
Penelope K. Galoff (maternity)	John E. Smith
Norman L. Greear	Motoko Stahl
Michael L. Hitchcock (surgery)	Rachel Swearingen
Melanie A. Hoffman (parasitosis, fibromyalgia condition)	Ronald L. Taylor (chronic pulmonary disease)
Stephen Howard (bone marrow transplant)	Frances L. Thomas
Wayne A. Jaynes	Rosalind Walters Kenion (maternity)
Evelyn K., Johnson (surgery)	Cecelia Walton (respiration problems)
Carole Jones	Willie Williams
Marlin Julian (heart surgery)	Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)
Jennifer Keetley (maternity)	Josephine O. Wojciechowski
Beverly King (caring for husband)	(care for elderly parents)
William Klein	

For information about donating annual leave, call Dave Mial; 410-278-1524; or fax 410-278-7877.

improve your craft, join the UPPER CHESAPEAKE CHORUS of Sweet Adelines International, a professional women’s cappella chorus, for a free 3-week course, Jan. 22, 29 and Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. at Bel Air Elementary School. Certified director Cydney Wentzel, along with members of UCC’s music staff, will teach vocal technique, breathing and physical preparation, as well as 4-part harmony, choreography, and stage presence. Space is limited and reservations are required. Call 410-575-7602, 410-877-7314, or 410-838-0921.

THURSDAY JANUARY 25 TEAM APG SHOWCASE 2001

“Biotech Resources for Business,” will be presented from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810. Learn how your business can access world-class biotechnology labs. Network with representatives from leading biotechnology firms, tour the state-of-the-art Process Engineering Facility, McNamara Building and Microland Laboratory.

Cost is \$25 per person. To register, visit www.mdhitech.org by Jan. 18, or call Filomena Thompson, 240-453-6200. For showcase information, call Ron Hawkins, 410-715-4162.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9

The Civilian Welfare Fund is sponsoring a trip to the Three Little Bakers Dinner Theater to see “Showboat” on Feb. 9. The price is \$46 per person and includes dinner, the show and charter bus transportation.

For more information or reservations call Angela Keithley or Jacqueline McKeever, at 278-4603/4771.

HAIR JAM 2001

Hair Jam 2001 will be held at Top of the Bay Ballroom at 10 p.m. The Hair Show begins at 10 p.m. Hair styles will be presented by beauty and barber shops in Harford County, including Anthony’s Barber and Beauty Salon, Charleena’s Higher Expectations Beauty Center, Classic Trends II barber and Beauty Salon, For The Total You Beauty Salon, Gentlemen’s Edge Barber Shop, Gilda’s Just a Hair Better, Marvelous Marvin’s Cuts, Rokia’s Hair World, Supreme Cutz Barber Shop and Turning Heads Beauty Salon.

A dance will be held from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. Out Da Way Entertainment will provide music.

Age limit is restricted to 21 and over. Dress to impress; no sneakers, timberlakes, sweat suits, jeans or bandanas.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 1-888-934-7031.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14 EA OFFICERS’ WIVES CLUB LUNCHEON

The Edgewood Area Officers’ Wives Club will hold its monthly luncheon on at the Olive Tree Restaurant in Aberdeen. Social hour begins at 11:30 a.m. and lunch is served at noon. Stephanie Borneman of The Hay’s House Museum will speak on the colonial life of a woman.

Entrees for the luncheon include; lasagna, fettuccini primavera, or chicken parmigiana. Each entree includes soft drink or iced tea, Italian salad, garlic herb breadsticks and cheesecake. Cost is \$12.50 and includes tax and gratuity.

Please call Diane Payne at 410-569-5116 or Jenna Edens at 410-676-1487 for reservations by Friday, Feb. 9.

LIBRARY UPDATE

The Garrison Library has books for the New Year’s weight loss resolutions. Come by either the Aberdeen Area Library or the Edgewood Area Branch Library and check out some books.

Body for Life: 12 weeks to Mental and Physical Strength by Bill Phillips

Complete Home Fitness Handbook edited by Edmund R. Burke

Eat to Win for Permanent Fat Loss by Robert Haas

Eating Well for Optimum Health by Andrew W. Weil

Eight Weeks to Optimum Health by Andrew W. Weil

Fit for Life: A New Beginning by Harvey Diamond

Fitness for Dummies by Suzanne Schlosberg

Mayo Clinic on Healthy Weight

The Pilates Body by Brooke Siler

Weight Training for Dummies by Liz Neporent

The Aberdeen Area library, building 3320 on Aberdeen Boulevard, is open Monday through Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. (The Aberdeen Area library is temporarily closed until further notice.) The Edgewood Area library, building E-4405 on Austin Road, is open Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

GRADUATE ENGINEERING COURSES TO BE HELD AT HEAT CENTER

The Whiting School of Engineering, Johns Hopkins University and the Harford Community College successfully signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Nov. 29 enabling JHU to bring graduate courses to the HEAT Center. The spring semester begins Jan. 22.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING: HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

The course addresses traditional and innovative technologies, concepts, and principles applied to the management of hazardous waste to protect human health and the environment. Topics include regulatory requirements; fate and transport of contaminants; physical, chemical, and biological treatment; land disposal restrictions; guidelines for design, construction, and closure of hazardous waste landfills; environmental monitoring systems; management of medical waste and treatment options; management of underground and above ground storage tanks; toxicology and risk assessment; pollution prevention and waste minimization; hazardous waste generators and transporters; permitting and enforcement of hazardous waste facilities; closure and financial assurance requirements; and RCRA Subtitle C Corrective Action and CERCLA/Superfund remediation processes.

575.422.61
Wednesdays H. Alavi
\$1,830 5 to 7:45 p.m.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING: INTRODUCTION TO POLYMER SCIENCE

Topics include bonding in polymers, polymer morphology, molecular weight characterization, polymer solubility and solutions, transitions in polymers, condensation and free-radical polymerization, copolymerization, rubber elasticity, viscoelasticity, polymer processing.

545.427.61
G. Murray \$1,830 6:15 to 9 p.m.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING: DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING

Basics concepts of discrete linear shift-invariant systems are emphasized, including sampling, quantization, and reconstruction of analog signals. Extensive coverage of the Z-transform, discrete Fourier transform, and Fourier transform is given. An overview of digital filter design includes discussion of impulse invariance, bilinear transform, and window functions. Filter structures, finite length register effects, round-off noise, and limit cycles in discrete-time digital systems are also covered. Prerequisite: A working knowledge of Fourier and Laplace transforms.

525.427.61 On-line
H. Ambrose \$1,830

MATERIAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING: ALLOY SELECTION FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN

This course examines mechanical property design requirements including code base design requirements. Alloy selection for strength, ductility, fatigue life, crack fracture toughness, corrosion resistance, and wear are studied. The joining of materials by welding and brazing is addressed. Alloy systems, nomenclature, and physical properties are examined with attention to information sources.

515.414.61 Tuesdays
R.Pond \$1,830 6:15 to 9 p.m.

Admission requirements: Applicants taking a graduate-level course must hold a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university or be in the last semester of undergraduate study. As an alternative to mailing an application, prospective students may apply on line at <http://www.jhu.edu/pte/form.html>.

For more information call 1-800-JHU-ENGR (1-800-548-3647) or e-mail pte@jhu.edu or visit <http://www.jhu.edu/pte>.

MOVIES

Post Theater admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

VERTICLE LIMIT Friday, Jan. 19, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 20, 7 p.m.

Starring: Chris O’Donnell, Robin Tunney

A young climber must launch a treacherous and extraordinary rescue effort up K-2, the world’s second highest peak, to save his sister and her summit team in a race against time. (Rated PG-13)

THE YARDS Saturday, Jan. 20, 9 p.m.

Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Joaquin Phoenix

After serving time in prison, Leo just wants to get his life back on track. So, Leo returns to the one place he thinks will be safe, home. There, he takes a new job with his Uncle Frank, and is reunited with his longtime friend, Willie and Willie’s girlfriend Erica. But in the yards, he’s drawn into a world of sabotage, high stakes, pay-off and even murder. (Rated R)

RETIRES FOR JANUARY

The monthly retirement ceremony will be at Dickson Hall, January 31, at 2 p.m.

Ernest M. Atwell, ATC, 32 years
Frederick C. Baldauf, SBCCOM, 41 years
Sylvia M. Bauer, PMCD, 42 years
Margaret K. Boyle, ATC, 16 years
Flora W. Bradley, DTC, 27 years
William A. Broadhurst Jr., ATC, 30 years
Edward F. Carson, DSHE, 40 years
Charlotte E. Case, ARL, 25 years
Clarence L. Choate, SBCCOM, 37 years
Aivars K.R. Celmins, ARL, 36 years
Edward F. Colburn, SBCCOM, 28 years
Peter W. Dolan, TEU, 32 years

Donna W. Donache, DTC, 32 years
Francis W. DuBois Jr., ATC, 37 years
Julia DuBois, DTC, 25 years
Patricia A. Easter, DLES, 33 years
Warren T. Eller, SBCCOM, 39 years
Michael G. Finkle, AEC, 43 years
Lucinda J. Giles, PMCD, 17 years
Richard J. Graham, SBCCOM, 41 years
George J. Gray, SBCCOM, 38 years
Glen R. Gray, ATC, 40 years
Phyllis A. Gray, SBCCOM, 36 years
Charles B. Haley, ATC, 23 years
Joseph Huerta, SBCCOM, 35 years
Janet W. Hurley, ATC, 20 years

George A. Jack, ATC, 35 years
John D. Jackson, PMCD, 30 years
Franklin O. Johnson, ATC, 34 years
Walter K. Jones, ATC, 34 years
Richard E. Kehoe, OC&S, 41 years
Louis T. Kline Sr., DPW, 14 years
John R. Kopczynski, SBCCOM, 22 years
Frank G. Lattin, SBCCOM, 32 years
James C. Libby, DTC, 39 years
Malcolm E. Little, SBCCOM, 37 years
Thomas A. Lucas, ATC, 32 years
Frank J. Malkin, ARL, 39 years
Janet M. McMillion, SBCCOM, 37 years
Robert A. Miller, SBCCOM, 38 years

Donald H. Nesbit, SBCCOM, 25 years
Robert T. Pakulski, DPW, 27 years
Joseph A. Rehrmann, SBCCOM, 37 years
Betty G. Sexton, ATC, 20 years
Joanne M. Sexton, DRM, 20 years
Elaine R. Smith, AMC Acquisition Center, 33 years
William E. Smith, SBCCOM, 33 years
Ronald R. Sommer, ATC, 31 years
Richard A. Stephens, ATC, 39 years
Robert M. Taylor, ATC, 29 years
Audley J. Thomson, DPW, 5 years
Carlos Torres Costa, OC&S, 46 years
Betty J. Wyman, AEC, 37 years
John G. Zdenek, IRAC, 35 years

Remembering the “Forgotten War”

Remembering Harford veterans

The Korean War lasted three years, from 1950-1953. Marking the war’s 50th anniversary, Congress declared a three-year commemoration that began in June 2000 and runs until Veteran’s Day, Nov. 11, 2003.

Harford County has been designated a Korean War Commemoration Community, along with hundreds of other

cities across the nation. Throughout Harford County, displays, books and memorabilia on the war abound in local post offices and museums, and in city and school libraries.

With its high concentration of Korean War veterans, Harford County has ceremonies planned throughout the three-year period in an effort to better educate children and adults about

America’s first great conflict of the Cold War era.

The following article is the first of a monthly series to honor and remember Harford County veterans of the ‘Forgotten War.’

Hopefully, taking a look back with neighbors and friends who were touched by the war will strengthen our admiration for the sacrifices made by so many unsung heroes.

The “Limited War”

In June 1950 the forces of North Korea’s Communist regime struck south across the 38th parallel in an attempt to unify the Korean peninsula by force.

President Harry S. Truman sent American naval and air forces to the aid of South Korea.

When these did not stem the North Korean tide, he ordered in ground troops.

By mid-September, Gen. Douglas MacArthur’s United Nations forces had managed to stabilize the front along a perimeter enclosing the southeast Korean port of Pusan. An amphibious landing on Inch’on then cut North Korean lines of communication and sent disorganized enemy units fleeing across the 38th parallel toward the Yalu River at the border of Korea and Communist China.

The UN expanded its objective from the preservation of South Korea to reunification of the entire peninsula, and UN forces pursued north to the Yalu, despite warnings from the Chinese that they would intervene should UN troops approach their border.

In November, a final UN offensive to the Yalu River was met by an overwhelming counterattack by the Communist Chinese, forcing a UN withdrawal back across the 38th parallel.

The United States and its allies decided to limit their objectives to the maintenance

of South Korea rather than risk a third world war.

The U.S. Army became the primary instrument of this strategy of limited war.

While negotiations for a cease-fire progressed, Army troops developed tactics to hold the line in Korea with a minimum of casualties, building up fortifications and maximizing the use of artillery.

Army planners adopted personnel and logistics policies such as individual rotation, that made the burden of service in such a war as bearable as possible.

The Army shared with other Americans the frustrations of limited war, but when MacArthur exceeded his authority in an attempt to pursue policies that might have widened the conflict, the Army leadership supported President Truman in his decision to relieve the general.

After two years of stalemate and tedious negotiations, the two sides finally agreed to an armistice in July 1953.

Although the U.S. and its allies had not achieved the reunification of Korea, they had preserved the independence of South Korea, strengthening the credibility of the American containment policy against communism.

(Excerpted from 225 Years of Service by David W. Hogan Jr., in 225 Years of the Army, Faircount, LLC.)

Veteran uses two second chances to help other veterans

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Blair Cross is the current chair of the Harford County Veterans Commission, the past state commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and a member of the Order of Purple Hearts.

During the Korean War, he served with the 45th Infantry Division, 279th Infantry Regiment.

Cross remembers Korea as a place where “summers were unbearably hot and winters were unbearably cold.”

“It was often difficult to even walk for the cold,” Cross said.

With vivid memories undiminished by the passage of 50 years, Cross recalls the night he was wounded in action. He described it as “fateful.”

Alone on an ambush patrol, he was shot multiple times during a firefight with two North Koreans.

“When I opened fire, one of them fell on top of me,” Cross said.

Keeping his wits about him, he struggled back toward his line until he was close enough to call out for help.

Though he had to be evacuated to a hospital in Pusan, Cross said his wounds would have been far more severe had it not been so cold out.

“I was wearing a T-shirt, shorts, long johns, fatigues, a sweater, a field jacket, a steel vest and a parka,” Cross said. “When the bullets hit, they didn’t do as much damage as they could have.”

Cross was transported out, thinking himself very lucky, and grateful to be alive.

The next day his unit was overrun by enemy troops. Cross lost almost all his comrades.

“Only one or two guys survived,” he said. “I was so overwhelmed, I didn’t know if it was fate or luck,” Cross said. “I just knew that I was given another chance, twice.”

After he left the service, Cross went to work at the Locust Point Marine Terminal, which he retired from in 1992. Eventually, he was drawn into veteran-related activities and soon became a tireless worker for veterans’ rights.

He is a founder of the Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training, a Baltimore homeless shelter for veterans that is considered the most successful facility of its kind in the nation. He was “very involved” in organizing the Friends of Fort McHenry, a historical preservation group that is still active today and he currently is involved in the push for a Congressional Charter recognizing Korean War veterans as a viable interest group.

He said people forgot about Korean War veterans the same way they forgo about Vietnam veterans years later.

“We came home knowing we didn’t have a victory,” Cross said. “All we had was a cease fire.”

“Vietnam veterans were a different generation,” he added. “They were not about to take it on the chin.”

Today, Cross stays busy speaking to public and private groups about veterans issues. He meets regularly with state and local representatives to discuss or plan commemorations and is consulted for local and national broadcasts concerning the Korean War.



Photo courtesy of BLAIR CROSS

A young and eager Blair Cross awaits his destiny in this photo taken somewhere in Korea, circa 1951. About 19 years old at the time, Cross would eventually go on to serve as the state commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and lead the fight for veterans benefits and rights in Baltimore and Harford Counties.

Not one to sit and watch television, Cross said he is compelled to stay busy.

“I’ve got to occupy my time and I do it with patriotic issues or events,” Cross said, adding that the “backbone of all organizations is membership.”

“Everyone is not a joiner. I was out a long time before I joined anything,” Cross said. “But just adding numbers to an organization increases its clout in Washington, D.C. That’s important for any organization trying to make a difference in people’s lives.”

Formerly of Cockeysville, Cross and his wife of 47 years, Jane Cross, live in Bel Air. They are the proud parents of seven children and 14 grandchildren, all of whom live within a 30-mile radius.

Women’s Wellness Update

By Janice Spellman
KUSAHC Patient Advocate

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is now offering Women’s Wellness as an enhancement to primary care on the first floor of its health facility. Focused exclusively on female issues, the clinic is staffed by women, for women.

The facility opened its doors Dec. 4.

“Women’s wellness is like a sub-specialty to general medicine. The benefit is that it is staffed with all female providers who are focused on keeping patients healthy, preventing hospitalization and detecting medical conditions early,” said Maj. Marie Schech, the primary care head nurse who oversees the clinic.

“Many informative pamphlets are available here to assist you in promoting healthy living.”

The staff includes one family practice physician, two family nurse practitioners, one gynecological nurse practitioner, one licensed practical nurse, two nurse’s aids and a receptionist.

Schech said women currently enrolled in General Medicine may obtain appointments by requesting to see Maj. Jacqueline Schuler, Dr. Carol Stauffer, Phyllis Naujokas, or Loretta Burl.

“TRICARE Prime patients will have priority access to the clinic,” Schech said.

She stressed that those participating in TRICARE Standard “should enroll in TRICARE Prime for guaranteed access.

“We are funded only for our Prime patients. The more Prime patients we have, the better we can support our patient care,” Schech said.

She added that practitioners will focus on making sure women are aware of personal wellness issues such as breast

self-examinations, pap smears and mammograms.

“With a full staff, practitioners will have more time to spend with their patients to discuss diet, exercise, existing conditions and health-promoting life styles,” Schech said.

Practitioners also will be able to provide referrals to civilian care providers for pregnant women. Though it does not offer obstetrical care, women may return to the clinic for post-natal care and to set up Well Baby appointments.

The goal of the Women’s Wellness Clinic is to provide a one-stop shopping concept. The staff hopes to provide a relaxed atmosphere where patients can have time to chat with their providers so they don’t feel rushed in or out; a total women’s health and prevention program that provides more attention to the patient and a quicker referral rate.

With pending changes in pharmacy and TRICARE coverage, there is a lot of information that needs to be dispersed. The clinic allows practitioners to ensure patients are informed.

One change already in effect is that DEPA contraceptive shots, a monitored program formerly handled by the Urgent Care Clinic, is now available in Women’s Wellness.

Stauffer, a family practitioner, has been on the staff at KUSAHC since 1996.

“We now have the resources to better serve the female community,” Stauffer said. “Our staff can provide same-day availability which helps with urgent care situations. It’s primary care medicine that’s disease prevention oriented.”

To schedule a Well Woman’s appointment, call 410-278-1800.

Second civilian IG for DA sworn-in

By Capt. Nicole K. Chupas
SBCCOM

The second civilian Department of the Army Inspector General in history was recently sworn in at the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command headquarters at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Sara Price was sworn in to serve as the SBCCOM Inspector General, a position usually reserved for active duty military personnel.

Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commanding general of SBCCOM, officiated

the ceremony on behalf of the Honorable Louis Caldera, Secretary of the Army and the Army IG Lt. Gen. Michael W. Ackerman.

“Price is part of a pilot program to allow civilian DA employees to become inspector generals,” Doesburg said.

Inspector generals are the eyes and ears of the general and an extension of the commander. An IG works independently to assist and help the commander resolve issues that may arise from service members, Department of Defense employees, family members and retirees.

The IG is responsible for elevating issues to higher authorities who are more able to make a change.

“This program has opened news doors for others,” Price said. “It’s an honor to be selected.”

Price has been at SBCCOM as the assistant Inspector General serving as the acting Inspector General for the past 14 months. Prior to her arrival to SBCCOM she worked in the IG office at the U.S. Army Test Evaluation Command, now called the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command at APG.

US Marine awarded for heroic effort

Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Sgt. David E. Stach, U.S. Marine Corps Detachment, right, receives the, Department of the Navy’s Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal from Maj. Dan M. Mielke, left, commanding officer of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School U.S. Marine Detachment. Stach heroically saved an Aberdeen Proving Ground family member from imminent injury when he pulled him to safety “with total disregard to his own well being” during a fire in his Patriot Village multi-family complex in September, 2000.



The talents, fashions of APG youths

By **Cassandra Lampkin**
Teen Council member

In early December more than 200 people gathered in the gymnasium at the Edgewood Area Youth Center to cheer on the many members of the Edgewood Area Youth Services that displayed talent and various fashions. Together the fashion and talent show featured almost 50 youths from the first to the 12th grades.

“The purpose of the Winter 2000 Talent/Fashion Show was to build self-esteem and have children feel good about what they’re doing,” said Cardelia Lee, Edgewood Area Youth Center teen coordinator.

“The show did more than that,” she said. “It also brought a large group of people together in harmony to support and inspire the singers, dancers and leaders of the future.”

In order to prepare for the show, practice was continuously stressed to the participants. Performers in the talent show met with counselors at informal meetings and worked independently on their routines.

More than 37 youths modeled in the fashion show. Preparation involved extensive rehearsals. For a month, models rehearsed twice every week for two hours. During this time counselors reviewed routines until nearly perfected and always encouraged models to walk with pride.

The most challenging part of working with the models was “building their self esteem so they could go in front of people and

perform,” Lee said. “Many of the first-time models struggled with performing in front of large audiences until becoming more confident in their routine and themselves.”

Twelve-year old Derek Neville said the best part of being in the show was “having more confidence in myself.”

Still, as rehearsal time grew shorter, it was the little things being practiced that made a big difference in the show. Counselors put emphasis on little things like smiling at the audience, holding your head high, stepping in synk with your partner, walking harmoniously with the music, and putting a little personality into each routine.

Lee said that one of the highlights in working with the models was when she had to take all 37 kids to get fitted for clothing and deal with all the different styles of clothes they liked.

After performers were ready to show off their talent or fashion, Lee and Jerome Wing, the two counselors organizing the event, worked with volunteers to help decorate the gym and create the right atmosphere to begin the show.

Christmas lights were draped over the basketball rims and bells, bows and candy canes were displayed throughout the Center to spread the Christmas cheer and appeal to the audience.

Finally, after much preparation, it was time for the show to begin. Typically the fashion and talent shows are done separately, but this year they were combined into one

grand event, beginning with the fashion show.

Teen disc jockey coordinator Sylvester Lee began the evening by welcoming the audience. Then, while models elegantly walked the floor, Lenore Robinson, program moderator, introduced the models and briefly mentioned details about their apparel.

The Center borrowed the new winter 2000 apparel from AAFES and Fashion Bug to support the show.

The talent show began when hostess Tyshuna Bolton introduced the first act. The entertainment featured soloists, group songs, instrumental performances and dancers.

The show received a good reception from parents, staff and youth members in the audience. This show was the best so far, stated many audience members.

“The kids in the show learned a lot,” Lee said. “Other important values like commitment, responsibility and respect, are constantly instilled in children participating in positive activities.”

“I have gained a new perspective on life and learned a lot about law and order and working together,” 12-year old Andrew Fisher said.

“We have some real talented youth,” Staff Sgt. Bridget Sealy said. I walked away with a good feeling and if anyone had seen a photo of the talent show they would not have known it was in a gymnasium.”



Photos by WILLIAM HIGGINS

Top, Patrice Cook performs an interpretative dance at the Edgewood Area Youth Center gymnasium during the Winter 2000 Talent/Fashion Show in December. Above left, Tyshuna Bolton was the official hostess for the talent portion of the Winter 2000 Talent/Fashion Show at the Edgewood Area Youth Center. Above right, after a month of practice, models Allyson Maturey, Eric Rodriguez and Anaya Cook stepped in sync while modeling clothes borrowed from AAFES and Fashion Bug during the Edgewood Area Youth Center’s Winter 2000 Talent/Fashion Show.